8 November 1962

STATINTL   MEMORANDUM FOR: ███████████

SUBJECT   :   RCA Methods Support

1. Jim Corsetty, RCA--Methods, has made his primary
function that of planning and programming for the RCA
301 installation. This is pretty well completed at
STATINTL   this point. He and ████████ (ADPD) have made quite
a few trips to Baltimore for test and debug on 301 of
similar specifications to ours. Jim says they have
been going over there two or three nights a week and
getting back as late as 3 a.m. He is very impressed
STATINTL   with the attitude and devotion to duty shown by ████████
and some of the other programmers in ADPD.

2. Our 301 has been tested with 1402 at West Palm
Beach and is now packed and ready for shipment. But
Jim would like to test some card-to-tape and tape-to-
card operations before it is shipped, since no parallel
operations are planned, i.e. the other peripheral
equipment goes out the same day the 301 comes in. This
may not be possible since machine would have to be
unpacked and set up at West Palm Beach and shipment
schedule is approximately 16 November. It is not
essential that this be done since we would still have
emergency back up at RCA K Street or other Government
installations.

3. Jim and I had a long talk about programming
and operations techniques under 501/301 concept.
Some of the items discussed:

        a. Possible improvements in sorting times
            (usually averages 60% of operational time
            on a 501) by use of blocked fixed records
            instead of variable length records.

b. Limiting processing operations on the 501
to updating and sorting operations and
utilizing 301 with report generator programs
for report preparation. This would save
501 time and accomplish certain additional
computer processing simultaneously with 301
printing.

c. Greater use of cards as a media of data input.
Cards could be edited and processed to mag
tape on the 301 at low cost. Mag tape
from 301 could be a faster means of input
to the 501 then present paper tape.

4. Jim promised to explore some of these possibilities
after the 301 is operational.

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